



Operation Our Town Reporter

A monthly newsletter about our efforts to help prevent
and reduce drug abuse and crime in Blair County

Volume 17, Issue 9 - September 2025



OperationOurTown.org

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The Hite Company Division of Mayer
Electric
Thompson Pharmacy
UPMC Altoona
Value Drug Company
Ward Transport & Logistics Corp.



Monday, September 15, 2025

Schedule of Activities

4:00pm - OOT Mini-Golf Tournament at Lakemont Park

- **View - Mini-Golf flyer & Registration form**

5:00pm - "Our Town" Appreciation Night sponsored by Imler's
Poultry at Park Hills

- **View - Appreciation Night invitation**
- OOT supporters, golf sponsors, and friends welcome!

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Schedule of Activities

View - 2025 OOT Golf Brochure & Registration form

7:00am - Morning registration & breakfast provided by Sheetz

8:00am - AM Shotgun start

11:00am - Afternoon registration & lunch provided by Sheetz

12:30pm - AM putting contest for \$5,000

1:00pm - PM Shotgun start

6:00pm - PM putting contest for \$5,000

Cocktail reception following afternoon golf



**\$5,000 PUTTING
CONTEST**



A \$5,000 cash prize from Park Hills will
be awarded to the winners of the
AM & PM putting contests!

Mission

To facilitate partnerships between community and business to fight drug abuse and crime through proven law enforcement, treatment, and prevention techniques.



Find us on
Facebook

REPORT DRUG ACTIVITY
**PUSH OUT
THE PUSHER**

814-693-3020



Empowering Healthy Lifestyles

814-381-0921

Area police departments give year end review - A4

OPIOIDS: Continuing our Fight Against Addiction - A13



OUR TOWN TIMES
2025 ANNUAL REPORT | VOL. XIV

Our Biggest Challenges Require Multi-Faceted Solutions

Substance Use and Mental Health

CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS

By Amber D. Varney, NCC, LPC - CPMC Western Behavioral Health of the Alleghenies

Co-Occurring Disorders are disorders in which an individual has both a primary mental health and substance use disorder diagnosis. Many individuals involved in a behavioral health treatment process with co-occurring disorders. According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (2022), approximately 21.5 million Americans have a co-occurring disorder. It is crucial to identify if an individual has a substance use disorder because the symptoms of each disorder interact with one another. The three most common reasons for co-occurring disorders are the presence of co-occurring disorders, the presence of a mental health disorder, and the presence of a substance use disorder. These are closely related, and ultimately impact common risk factors between these as a coping skill, the treatment outcomes, physical substance use disorders and are significant indicators of health outcomes, and social mental health disorders. These factors require integrated treatment. The need to address common risk factors of using substances to cope with co-occurring disorders includes genetics, adverse with mental health symptoms, and the need to improve childhood experiences, social which can exacerbate the substance use disorder. Treatment of both, and symptoms of both disorders within the treatment process. Treatment can include See Co-OccurringPage A22

Month of September - Meetings

9/8	Booker T. Washington meeting	4:00pm	Central Blair Recreation & Park Commission
9/19	Pharmacy Roundtable meeting	7:15am	Zoom
9/24	Marketing Roundtable meeting	4:00pm	OOT office
9/25	Housing Roundtable meeting	12:00pm	U.S. Hotel

Click on the link below to view the Mini-Golf Tournament details:

View - Mini Golf flyer & registration form

Operation Our Town
**Mini-Golf
Tournament**

**Monday,
September 15th,
2025**


**Lakemont
PARK**
**Keystone Falls
18 Hole Mini-Golf**

4pm

Tee Time for OOT Mini-Golf
Tournament at Lakemont Park

5pm

"Our Town" Appreciation Night
at Park Hills Golf and Grille

Giddy Up, for great food, fun, and prizes!

**All funds raised benefit local drug
enforcement and prevention programs
through grants from Operation Our Town.**

In Partnership with:



**Click on the
image above to
view the
2025 OOT
Annual Report!**

Operation Our Town

2025 Prevention Grant Recipients



A total of over \$77,000 in grants was awarded by Operation Our Town for the 2025 Grant Cycle to the following prevention programs:

AASD Adult Education Program: HSE: Unlocking Doors to a Brighter Future

AASD ELECT Program: ELECT (Education Leading to Employment & Career Training)

Altoona Area Public Library: Parent and Caregiver Resource Library

Altoona Area School District Foundation: Project SOAR (Study, Overcome, Achieve, Reward)

ArtsAltoona: After School Arts Program (ASAP)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Blair County: S.M.A.R.T. School-based Mentoring Program

Blair County Head Start: Head Start Drive to Thrive Program

Blair Emergency Services Chaplain Platoon: B.E.S.C.P.

Booker T. Washington Revitalization Corp: Vets Field Revitalization

Families United for Change: C.C.'s Boutique

Family Services Incorporated: Victim Services Program's FSI Justice Project

Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation: Afterschool programs

Health, Opportunity, Purpose, Empowerment (H.O.P.E. Drop In Center): Enhancing Community Engagement through Improved Audio-Visual Equipment

Home Nursing Agency Foundation: The Healing Patch Children's Grief Program

Northern Blair County Recreation Commission: Youth Sponsorship Program

Overflow Church: N.E.X.T. (Nourish the soul, Educate the mind, Xpel the negative, Train the body)

Refuge Youth Network: Altoona After School Program

The Door Student Services, Inc.: The Door Stars Program

The Nehemiah Project: Kids Konnect

The R.O.C.K. at 2nd Avenue: The R.O.C.K. (Reaching Out to Community Kids)

The Salvation Army – Altoona Worship & Service Center: Unsheltered Assistance Programs

Tyrone-Snyder Public Library: Read to Rise

United Way of the Southern Alleghenies' Family Resource Center: Parents as Teachers & Parent Education Classes